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THE
OPINION of the PARLIAMENT,
ABOUT
RELIGION:

BEING THE
VOTES of the Honourable House of COMMONS,
Concerning
TOLERATION.

Die Mercurii 25. Feb. 15. C A R. II. Reg.

Resolved, *nemine contradicente*,

THAT the humble thanks of this House be returned to his Majesty, for his Resolution to maintain the Act of Uniformity.

Resolved, That it be presented to the Kings Majesty as the humble Advice of this House, That no Indulgence be granted to the Dissenters from the Act of Uniformity.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

THe Knights, Citizens, and Burgeſſes, of the Commons House of Parliament, did with great Joy receive Your Majesties most Gracious Speech, at the opening this Session of Parliament, and being thereby invited to consider of your Declaration of the Twenty sixth of December last; they have with all Sobriety, Duty, and Affection, examined the grounds thereof; and do by me present unto Your Majesty, Their most hearty Thanks for the same, and humble Advice thereupon; both which, I do beseech your Majesty, that You will vouchsafe me to deliver in their own words.

May it please Your most excellent Majesty,

WE Your Majesties most Dutiful and Loyal Subjects, the Knights, Citizens and Burgeſſes of the House of Commons in Parliament Assembled, having with all Fidelity and Obedience, considered of the several matters comprised in Your Majesties late Gracious Declaration of the 26th. of December last, and your most Gracious Speech at the beginning of this present Session,

Do, in the first place for our selves, and in the names of all the Commons of England, render to your sacred Majesty, the tribute of our most hearty thanks, for that infinite grace and goodness, wherewith your Majesty hath been pleased to publish your Royal Intentions of adhering to your Act of Indemnity, and Oblivion, by a constant and religious observance of it. And our hearts are further enlarged in these returns of Thanksgivings, when we consider your Majesties most Princely and Heroick Professions of relying upon the Affections of your people, and abhorring all sort of military and arbitrary rule. But above all, We can never enough remember, to the honour of your Majesties piety, and our unspeakable comfort, those solemn and most endearing invitations of us your Majesties Subjects to prepare *Laws* to be presented to your Majesty, against the growth and increase of *Papery*; and withal, to provide more *Laws* against licentiousness and impiety; at the same time declaring your own resolutions for maintaining the *Act of Uniformity*. And it becomes us always to acknowledge and admire your Majesties wisdom in this your *Declaration*, whereby your Majesty is pleased to resolve, not only by sumptuary *Laws*, but by your own royal example of frugality, to restrain that excess in mens expences, which is grown so general and so exorbitant; and to direct our Endeavours to find out fit and proper *Laws* for advancement of Trade and Commerce.

After this we most humbly beseech your Majesty to believe, That it is with extream unwillingness and reluctance of heart, that we are brought to differ from any thing which your Majesty hath thought fit to propose; And though we do no way doubt, but that the unreasonable distempers of mens spirits, and the many mutinies and conspiracies, which were carried on during the late intervals of *Parliaments*, did reasonably incline your Majesty to endeavour by your *Declaration* to give some small allay to those ill humours, till the *Parliament* assembled, and the hopes of Indulgence, if the *Parliament* should consent to it, especially seeing the pretenders to this

this Indulgence, did seem to make some titles to it, by virtue of your Majesties *Declaration from Breda*. Nevertheless, we your Majesties most dutiful and loyal Subjects, who are now returned to serve in *Parliament*, from those several parts and places of your Kingdom, for which we are chosen, Do humbly offer to your Majesties great wisdom, That it is in no sort advisable that there be any Indulgence to such persons who presume to dissent from the *Act of Uniformity*, and the *Religion* established,

F I N I S.